シリーズ魔の断片

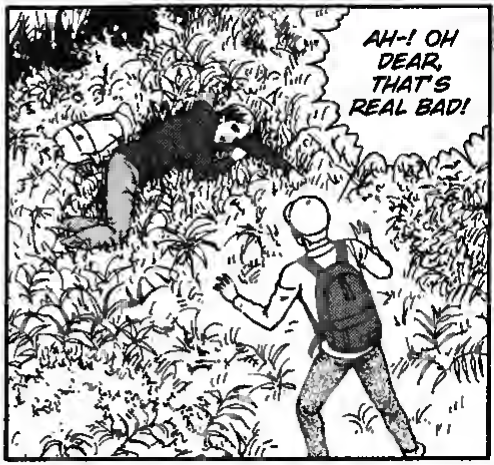
MA NO KAKERA

Chapter 6: Black Bird

Translated & edited by lemonsy.tumblr.com
Raws by koyanagilulu.tumblr.com | 百度 @to10508

伊藤潤二
Junji Ito

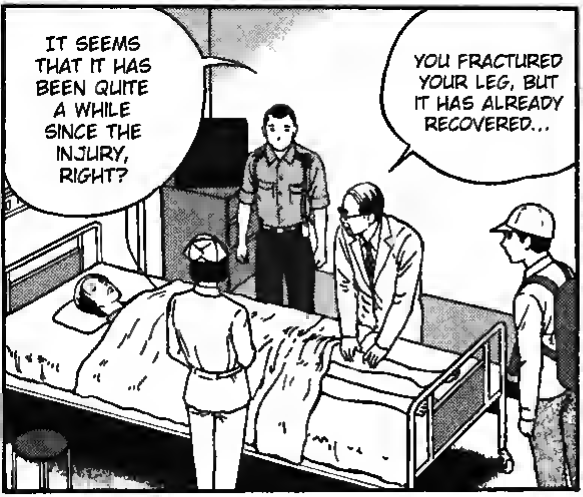
IT HAPPENED WHEN I HAD JUST GOTTEN BACK INTO BIRD WATCHING AFTER A LONG BREAK...
EH?
EXCUSE ME... THE PERSON BY THE WOODS...
...I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR HELP HERE...
I LOST MY FOOTING WHEN I WAS TREKKING AND NOW I CAN'T MOVE...
PLEASE HELP ME...

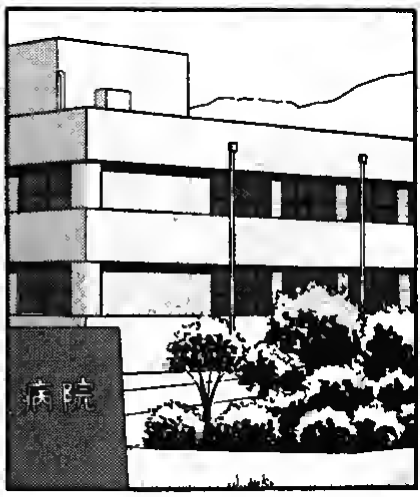

AH-! OH DEAR, THAT'S REAL BAD!

...YOU REALLY SAVED MY LIFE...
KUME-SAN ...

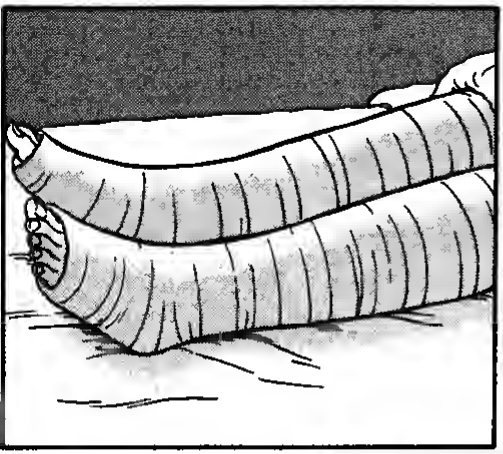
HANG IN THERE; WE'RE ALMOST AT THE HOSPITAL!

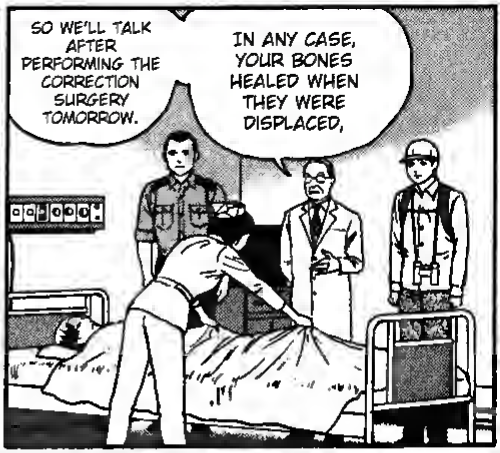
NO, I'M A LOCAL.
YOUR NAME IS KUME... RIGHT?
IS HE YOUR FRIEND?


IT SEEMS THAT IT HAS BEEN QUITE A WHILE SINCE THE INJURY, RIGHT?
YOU FRACTURED YOUR LEG, BUT IT HAS ALREADY RECOVERED...

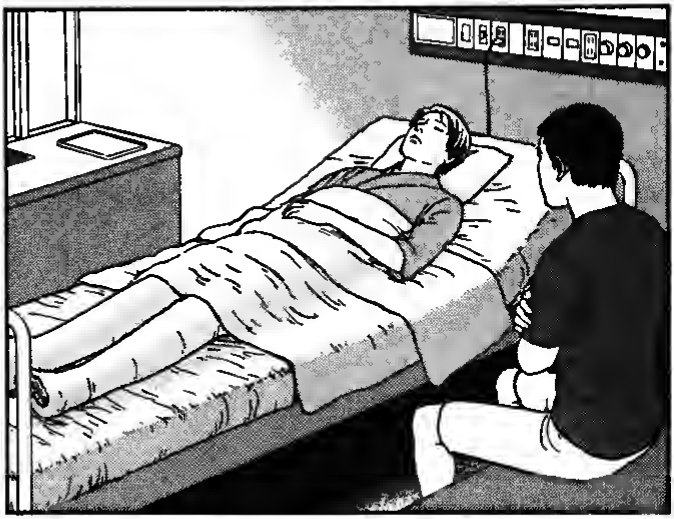

病院

ARE YOU MORIGUCHI SHIRO FROM TOKYO?
YES...
A MONTH AGAIN, DID YOU SUBMIT A MOUNTAINEERING LOG WITH YOUR OWN NAME BEFORE HIKING SHIROGANE-DAKE MOUNTAIN?
DID THE ACCIDENT OCCUR AROUND THAT TIME, TOO?
SO YOU HAVE BEEN THERE SINCE A MONTH AGO...
YOU WERE PARALYSED DUE TO THE FRACTURES, SO HOW DID YOU SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF FOOD?
...AH...
BY FRUGALLY CONSUMING THE LIMITED SUPPLIES IN MY BACKPACK ...
IS THAT SO? THAT IS DREADFUL ...
BUT EVEN WITH THE SCARCE SUPPLY, IT MANAGED TO SUSTAIN YOUR HEALTH CONDITION PRETTY WELL.
IS THERE ANY WAY OF CONTACTING YOUR NEXT-OF-KIN?
...
I DON'T HAVE ANY...
I DON'T HAVE A SINGLE RELATIVE ...
I'M CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED SO THERE IS NO WAY TO CONTACT ME...





MIRACULOUSLY SURVIVING A FULL MONTH BY SOLELY RELYING ON THE LIMITED FOOD SUPPLY IN YOUR BACKPACK. IT HAS BECOME A HOT TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION!
YOUR STORY IS ON THE HEADLINES, MORIGUCHI-KUN.



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I'M BEGGING YOU!
...PLEASE!
HUH? WHY SO?
BUT... COULD YOU PLEASE STAY AT THIS WARD TONIGHT...?
I KNOW IT IS RATHER TROUBLE-SOME...
MORIGUCHI SHIRO STRANGELY KEPT PERSUADING ME...
THUS, I AGREED TO STAY IN THE WARD THAT NIGHT...
I SEE... I APOLOGIZE FOR ASKING SUCH SENSITIVE THINGS...
IT'S OKAY, NO BIG DEAL.
...I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT MY PARENTS...
NO...
I HEARD YOU DON'T HAVE ANY RELATIVES... ARE BOTH YOUR PARENTS DECEASED?
I DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT THEM; BE IT THEIR LOOKS OR THEIR WHERE-ABOUTS...
I GREW UP IN AN ORPHANAGE ...

MY SAVINGS ARE ALMOST USED UP...
I'VE GOTTA FIND A NEW JOB QUICKLY AFTER I DISCHARGE...
MY ONLY HOBBY IS MOUNTAIN TREKKING,
BUT AN ACCIDENT BEFELL DUE TO MY CARELESS-NESS...
NO ONE SPECIAL COMES TO MIND...
BUT YOU SHOULD HAVE SOME KIND OF GIRLFRIEND OR FRIEND, RIGHT?
ALL RIGHT, LIGHTS OUT! GOODNIGHT!
IF YOU NEED HELP, YOU CAN ALWAYS TALK TO ME! THIS COULD BE A FATED MEETING AFTER ALL.
GUUUUU GULP
GUUUU GULP
GUULP
GULP
MM?
GULP GUULP

WHO ARE YOU?!
W-

SFX: SPIT!
H-HEY... MORIGUCHI-KUN, WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
MORIGUCHI-KUN... WHAT IS THAT?
FLESH?
IT'S FLESH ...
WHEN I FINALLY THOUGHT I COULD BE SAVED, THAT WOMAN STILL CAME TONIGHT...
SHE STILL CAME TONIGHT...
WHEN I THOUGHT I NEED NOT EAT FLESH ANYMORE ...!!
IT'S RAW FLESH...

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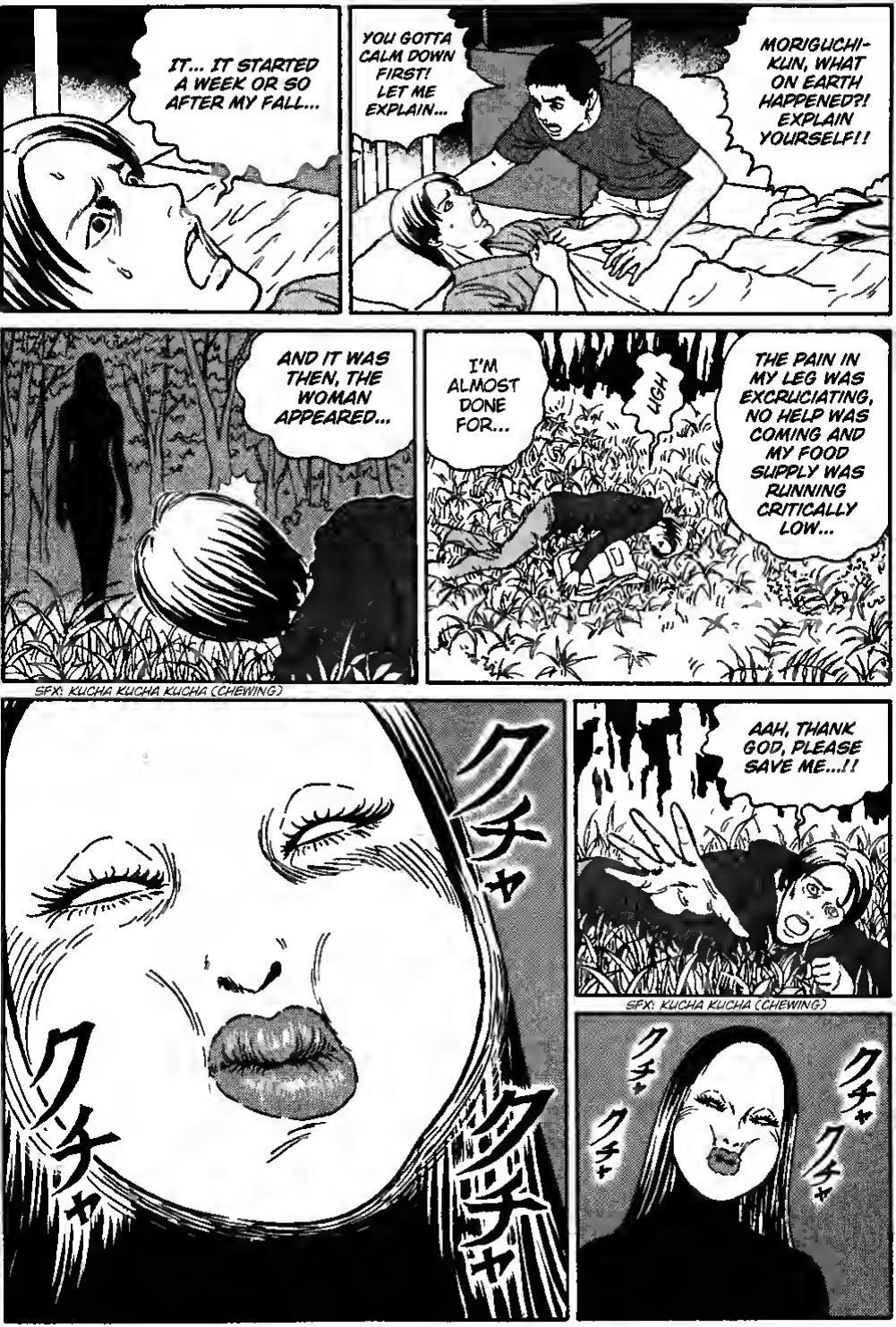
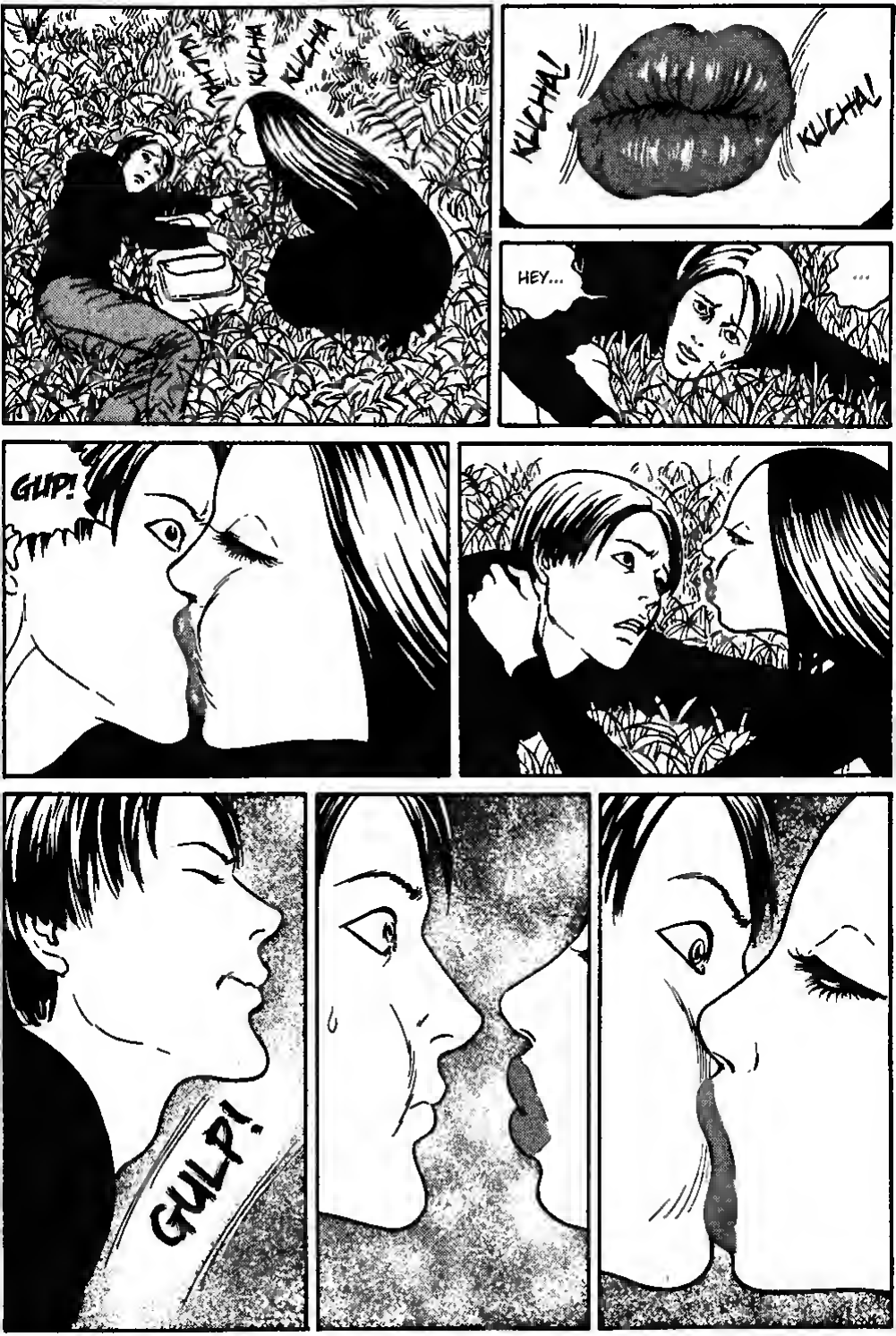
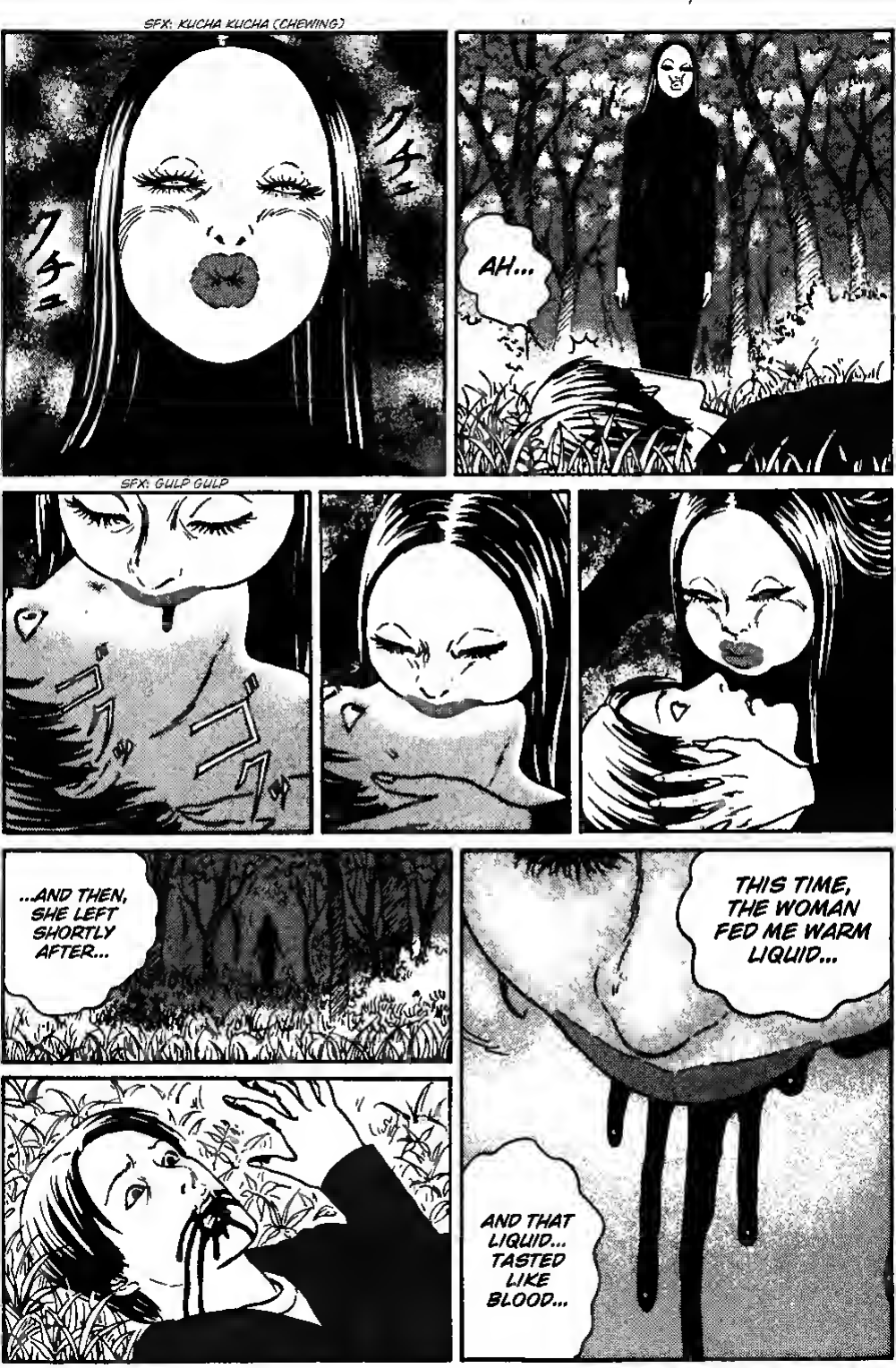

IT... IT STARTED A WEEK OR SO AFTER MY FALL...
YOU GOTTA CALM DOWN FIRST! LET ME EXPLAIN...
MORIGUCHI-KUN, WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED?! EXPLAIN YOURSELF!!
AND IT WAS THEN, THE WOMAN APPEARED...
I'M ALMOST DONE FOR...
UGH
THE PAIN IN MY LEG WAS EXCRUCIATING, NO HELP WAS COMING AND MY FOOD SUPPLY WAS RUNNING CRITICALLY LOW...
SFX: KUCHA KUCHA KUCHA (CHEWING)
クチャ
クチャ
クチャ
AAH, THANK GOD, PLEASE SAVE ME...!!
SFX: KUCHA KUCHA (CHEWING)
クチャ
クチャ
クチャ


KUCHA!
KUCHA!
KUCHA!
KUCHA!
KUCHA!
HEY...
...
GLIP!
GULP!

KE KE KE
BUT TO A STARVING MAN LIKE ME, IT WAS HEAVENLY AND COMPARABLE TO DELICACIES...
WHAT SHE FED ME ORALLY WAS ACTUALLY RAW FLESH THAT SHE HAD CHEWED ON...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT WOMAN?
SHE'S GONE...
AH! PLEASE WAIT- HEY, WAIT!
KEKE KEKE KEKE
THE HUNGER RETURNED AND BECAUSE OF DRYNESS IN MY THROAT, I BEGAN BREATHING HARSHLY...
HA
AH
SFX: RUSTLE
THEN THE NEXT DAY...
THAT WOMAN PROBABLY WON'T COME BY AGAIN, WILL SHE?
HOPES OF GETTING RESCUED GRADUALLY TURNED INTO UNEASE...


SFX: KUCHA KUCHA (CHEWING)
クチュ
クチュ
AH...
SFX: GULP GULP
ゴクゴク
...AND THEN, SHE LEFT SHORTLY AFTER...
THIS TIME, THE WOMAN FED ME WARM LIQUID...
AND THAT LIQUID... TASTED LIKE BLOOD...

SHE IS SORT OF MY BENEFACTOR ...
I GUESS I SHOULD PROPERLY EXPRESS MY THANKS TO HER...
I WAS ABLE TO BE RESCUED THANKS TO THIS WOMAN.
FROM THEN ON, THE WOMAN CAME TO FEED ME FRESH BLOOD AND RAW FLESH ORALLY EVERYDAY.
BESIDES, THE DELICIOUS FLESH THAT I TASTED WHEN I WAS STARVING...
...IS MAKING ME NAUSEOUS NOW...
IT'S MAKING ME FEEL INCREASINGLY UNSETTLED.
BUT THAT WOMAN IS STILL FEEDING ME ORALLY EVEN THOUGH I'VE BEEN RESCUED...
...
I DON'T KNOW, BUT...
BUT MY INSTINCTS TELL ME THAT I SHOULD *NEVER* HAVE EATEN IT...
WHAT KIND OF MEAT IS THAT?
ALSO, BEING FED ORALLY BY SOME UNKNOWN WOMAN IS SIMPLY UNCOMFORTABLE ...

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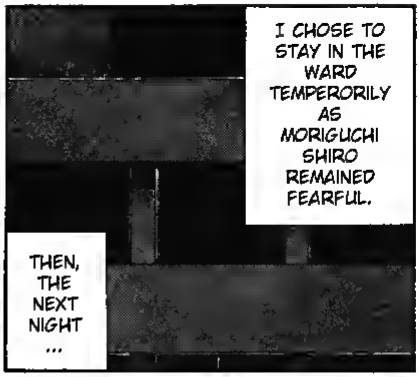
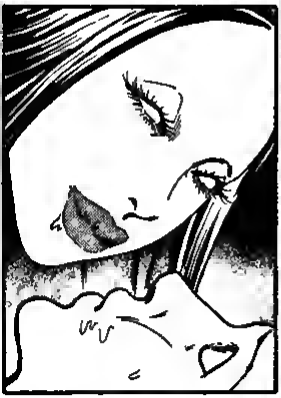
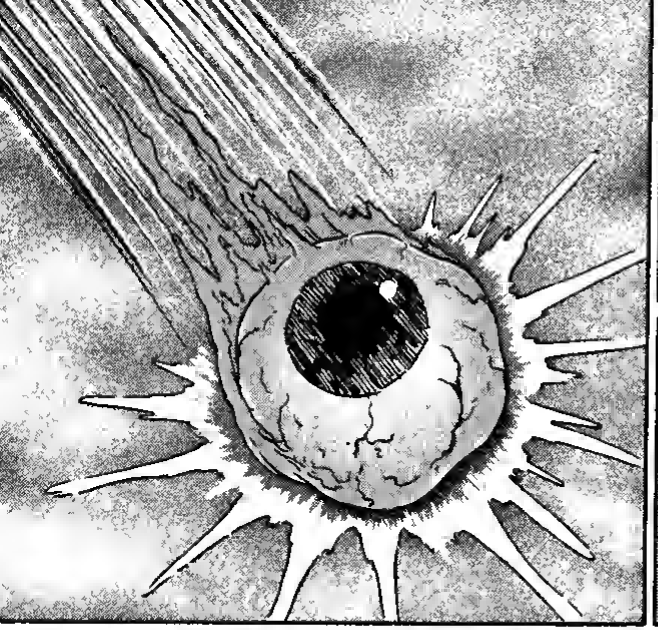

I CHOSE TO STAY IN THE WARD TEMPERORILY AS MORIGUCHI SHIRO REMAINED FEARFUL.
THEN, THE NEXT NIGHT ...

GUUU GUUUU

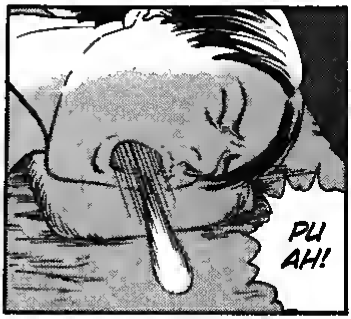
GU...
GURU GURU

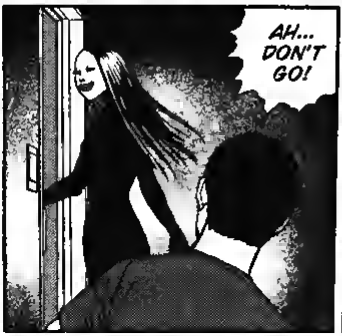
STOP IT!!
Y- YOU ...





UCK!

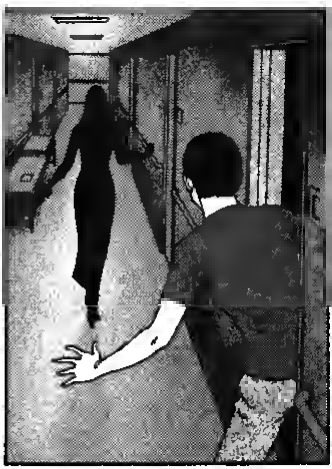

PU
AH!


AH...
DON'T
GO!

KE
KE
KE
KE
KE

...AH!!

EMERGENCY EXIT
YOU...



AAH!
SFX: BASATSU!
...I...I AM I DREAMING...?!

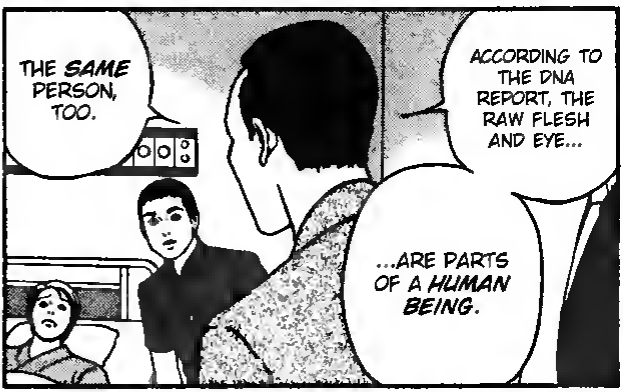
HOWEVER, FROM THEN ON, THE WOMAN SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED.
BUT I OMITTED THE FACT THAT SHE FLEW AWAY INTO THE NIGHT SKY...
THE NEXT DAY, I REPORTED THE INCIDENT TO A POLICE OFFICER, WITH THE RAW MEAT AS EVIDENCE.
RELAX, SHE WON'T APPEAR AGAIN.
SHE MUST HAVE MISTAKEN ME FOR A NESTLING...
THAT'S WHY SHE'S BEEN FEEDING ME FOOD ALL THIS WHILE...
A BIRD-LIKE DEMON...
I'M REALLY SCARED, KUME-SAN... THAT WOMAN IS A DEMON...
IT IS PRACTICALLY A MIRACLE THAT I SURVIVED...
I HEARD THAT AS AN INFANT, I WAS ABANDONED UNDER A TREE IN THE PARK FOR ALMOST A WEEK...
COULD IT BE... THAT DEMONIC WOMAN HAS BEEN FEEDING ME SINCE THEN?
I'M AN ORPHAN, KUME-SAN...

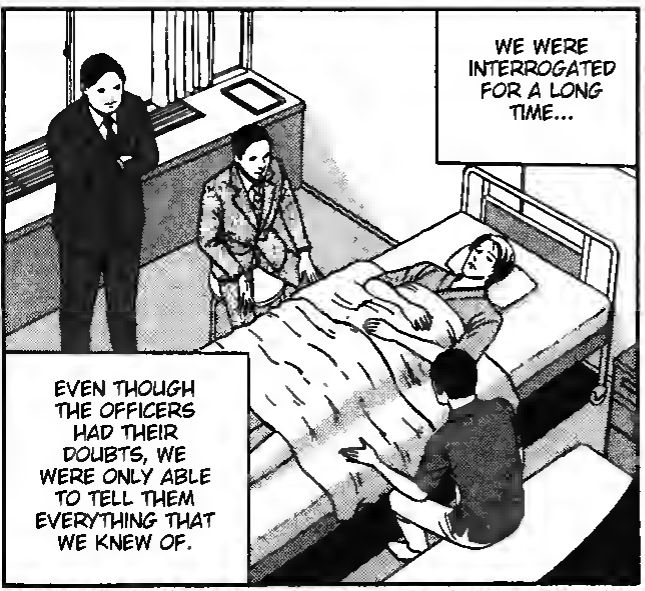
AH... YES...

ARE YOU KUME-SAN AND MORIGUCHI-SAN?

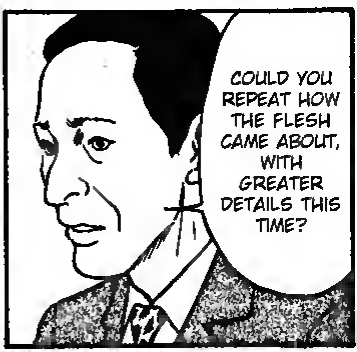
WE ARE THE POLICE.
WITH REGARDS TO THE FLESH THAT YOU PROVIDED AS EVIDENCE, WE'D LIKE TO ASK A FEW QUESTIONS ...

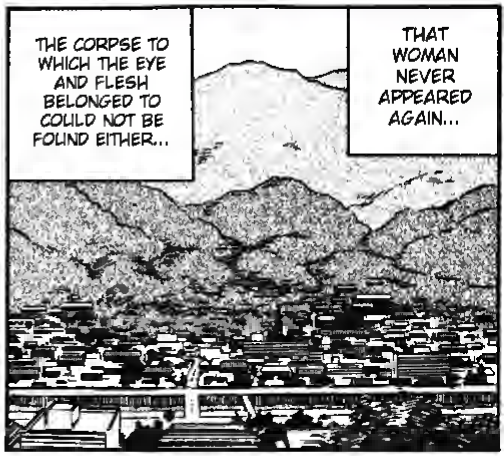
EH?!

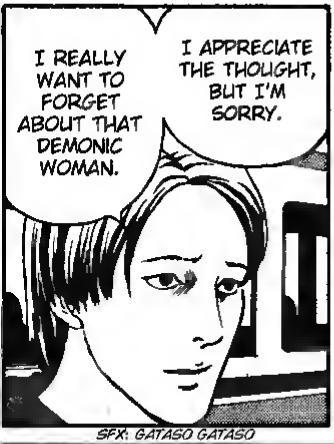

THE SAME PERSON, TOO.
ACCORDING TO THE DNA REPORT, THE RAW FLESH AND EYE...
...ARE PARTS OF A HUMAN BEING.


WE WERE INTERROGATED FOR A LONG TIME...
EVEN THOUGH THE OFFICERS HAD THEIR DOUBTS, WE WERE ONLY ABLE TO TELL THEM EVERYTHING THAT WE KNEW OF.

UGH!


COULD YOU REPEAT HOW THE FLESH CAME ABOUT, WITH GREATER DETAILS THIS TIME?



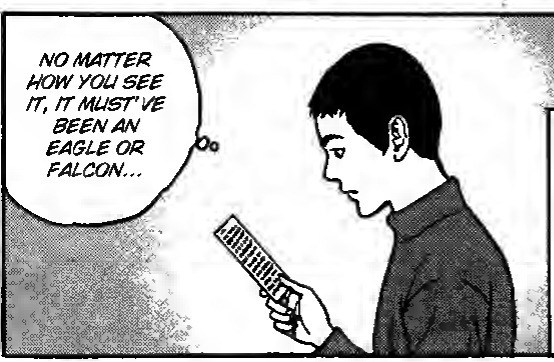


SFX: GATASO GATASO

SFX: BASATSU BASATSU

SFX: BASATSU BASATSU

SFX: BASATSU BASATSU (FLAPPING OF WINGS)



THERE WAS NOTHING MENTIONED ABOUT THE WOMAN AND THAT REASSURED ME.

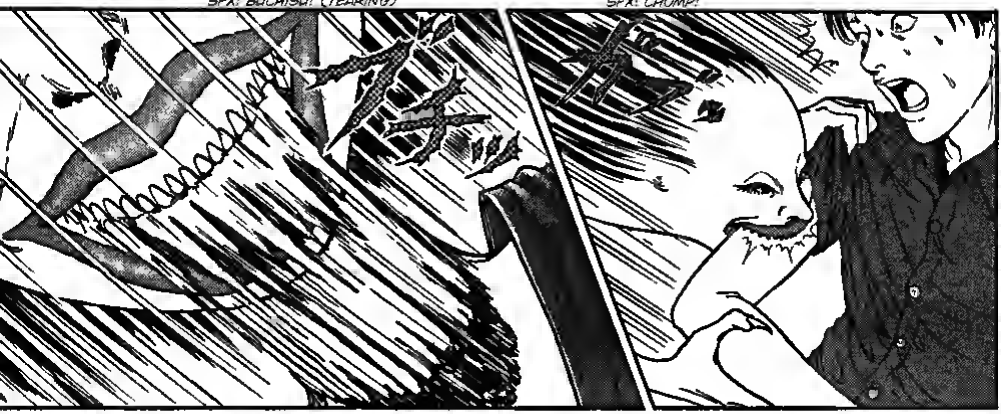
AFTER A MONTH, I RECEIVED A POSTCARD ABOUT MORIGUCHI SHIRO'S NEW JOB.

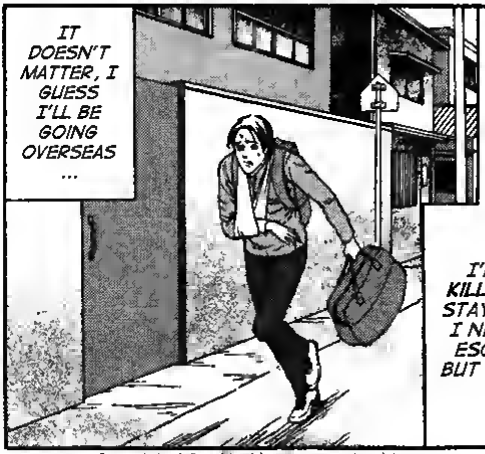
A FEW YEARS LATER, THE REMAINS OF MORIGUCHI SHIRO WAS FOUND...
...AT THE PEAK OF MOUNT FUJI, FROZEN IN CAVITY...
BASED ON HIS BELONGINGS, IT WAS HIM.
THEY WERE ABLE TO CONFIRM THAT USING DNA.
RUMOUR HAS IT THAT THERE WAS A GIANT BLACK BIRD WAS DEVOURING ON CORPSE UPON DISCOVERY, BUT IT WAS NOT CONFIRMED.

THEY SAID THAT THE DNA THAT WAS OBTAINED FROM THE RAW FLESH THAT MORIGUCHI SHIRO CONSUMED ORALLY THROUGH THAT WOMAN YEARS AGO...
...WAS A PERFECT MATCH WITH MORIGUCHI SHIRO'S OWN DNA.
BUT RIGHT AFTER THAT, THE POLICE RELEASED SOME INFORMATION TO THE MEDIA, THAT CAUSED CONFUSION TO THE PUBLIC.
THE ITEM BELOW IS THE DIARY THAT MORIGUCHI LEFT IN HIS BACKPACK THAT CONTAINS HIS LAST ENTRY.
Diary
IN OTHER WORDS, MORIGUCHI HAS BEEN CONSUMING HIS OWN FLESH?
HOW SHOULD WE PUT THIS?
SHE BARGED INTO MY ROOM THAT WAS LOCKED...
HOW DID SHE GET IN HERE?!
8 AUG THAT WOMAN REAPPEARED, WHEN I FINALLY THOUGHT SHE HAD LEFT ME ALONE...

SFX: BUCHISU! (TEARING)

SFX: CHOMP!





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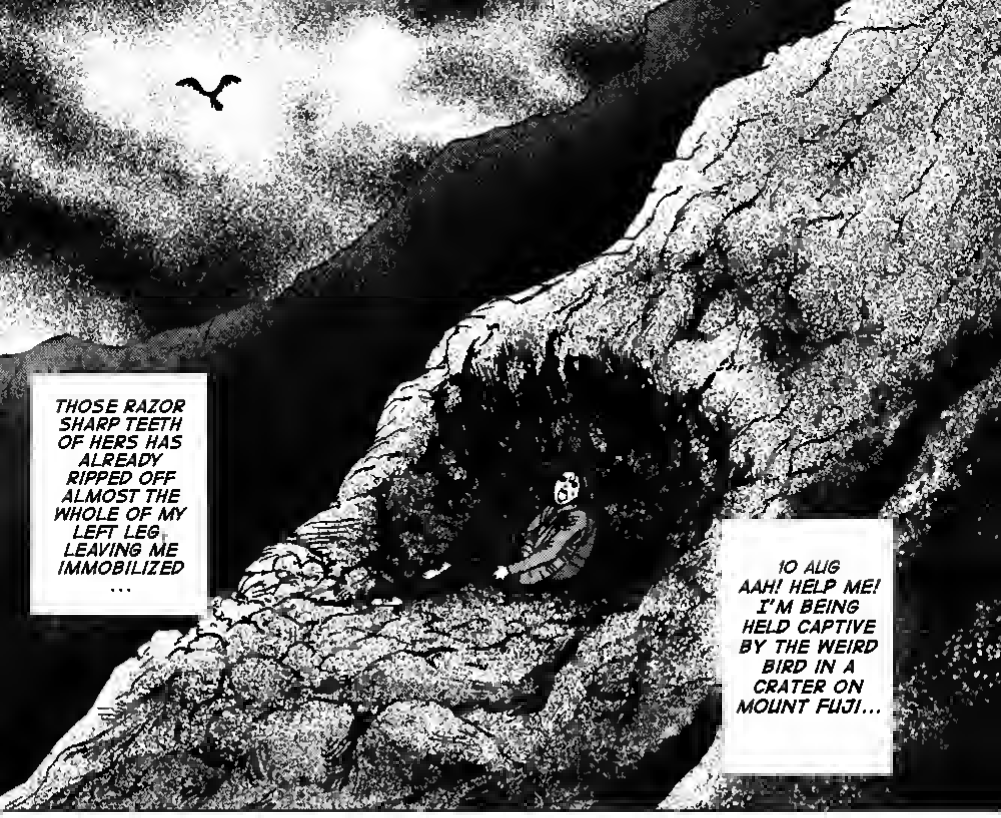
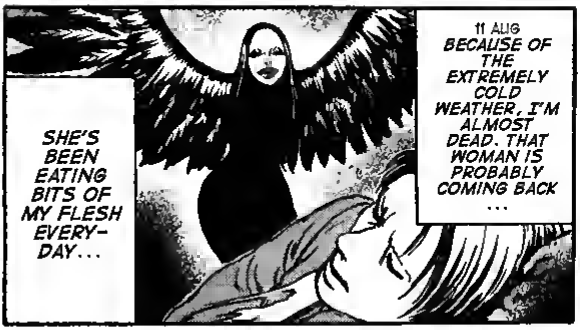

THOSE RAZOR SHARP TEETH OF HERS HAS ALREADY RIPPED OFF ALMOST THE WHOLE OF MY LEFT LEG LEAVING ME IMMOBILIZED ...
10 AUG
AAH! HELP ME! I'M BEING HELD CAPTIVE BY THE WEIRD BIRD IN A CRATER ON MOUNT FUJI...

THE ENTRIES ENDED THERE.


SHE'S BEEN EATING BITS OF MY FLESH EVERY-DAY...
11 AUG
BECAUSE OF THE EXTREMELY COLD WEATHER, I'M ALMOST DEAD. THAT WOMAN IS PROBABLY COMING BACK ...

THIS IS THE EXACT OPPOSITE SITUATION TO WHEN I WAS FED WITH FLESH ORALLY BY HER A FEW YEARS BACK...

SFX: CHIRP CHIRP
チュン チュン
チッ チッ
THEN THE ONLY POSSIBLE EXPLANATION IS THAT THE WOMAN LEAPT THROUGH TIME TO TAKE HIS FLESH...
IF THE FLESH THAT WAS FED TO MORIGUCHI CAME FROM HIMSELF...
SFX: CHIRP CHIRP
チュン
チュン
ZAAZAAZAA

SFX: SLIP
ズル
UWA AA!!

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SFX: KUCHA KUCHA (CHEWING)
クチャクチャ
クチャクチャ
SFX: GENTLY LANDS
フワ
KUCHA
KUCHA
I DON'T WANT THIS...!!
NO...
BRINGS ABOUT A NASEATING TASTE....
THAT PIECE OF FLESH ...
End